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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIAL~~

COUNTRY Austria (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from the Apetlon AAA Range

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EVALUATION

DATE OF CON

DATE OBTAIN

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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1. On 5 June 1951, firing practice with AA guns and AA machine guns began at the Apetlon (P 43/X 74) AAA range. It was discontinued on 6 June because of rainy weather.

2. Five officers and nine men from Apetlon arrived at the ~~buszamaster's office~~ in Pamhagen (P 43/X 84) on trucks ~~on 7 June~~ [REDACTED] They were allegedly looking for suitable camping sites. *

3. On the evening of 7 June, a troop train arrived in Wallern (P 43/X 84) from a northerly direction and was unloaded at about 5:30 a.m. the following morning. The troops and equipment unloaded included: about 30 officers and 300 EM with red-bordered black epaulets, an undetermined number of trucks from 26 flatcars; 20 canvas-covered artillery pieces, from 20 flatcars; and 2 radio trucks from 2 flatcars. A colonel was the ranking officer. After it was unloaded, the unit drove to Apetlon. Jeep [REDACTED], occupied by the colonel and three majors, and trucks [REDACTED]

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A second troop train arrived at Wallern at about 9 a.m. on 8 June. It consisted of 45 cars and carried about 180 troops, including officers, 22 trucks, 1 jeep, 16 AA guns of about 35-mm with funnel-shaped muzzle brakes, and 1 boxcarload of boxes with ammunition. The ranking officers of the troops, who wore red-bordered black epaulets, were 3 or 4 majors. The unit departed for Apetlon by truck, but left the ammunition and 60 to 70 soldiers at the railroad station. The soldiers later told railroadmen that they had to stay overnight in the cars because there were not enough tents available at Apetlon.

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Railroadmen in Wallern stated that the trains had come from Hungary because the cars were of Hungarian origin and were labeled "taken over in Hegyeshalom (P 48/Y 06) on 7 June 1951".**

4. On 10 June, troops at the AAA range practiced aiming with AA guns at a balloon. Organized into groups of about 50 men each, the troops marched back to the camp in the evening, leaving a strong guard detail at the range.

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25X1A Comment. Elements of the 23d AAA Div, [REDACTED] 25X1D [REDACTED] have been reported several times at Apetlon since the end of March 1951. [REDACTED] In 25X1A 25X1X previous reports, [REDACTED] the AAA troops who arrived at the beginning of May 1951 were engaged in the construction of the camp until the end of May and would start 25X1A AAA firing practice on 5 June 1951. [REDACTED] 25X1A
** Comment [REDACTED]

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